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having first outlined the plan which was afterwards substantially followed in the constitution of the Geneva court, and of having impressed his idea so strongly upon influential persons that after years it bore substantial fruit in one of the greatest international events of modern times. Besides its historical value in this respect, Mr. Balch's book has a general and permanent value in reference to the whole subject of arbitration and arbitration tribunals, and we are sorry it is out of print.

Boston Labor Union. The Boston Central Labor Union, to which are attached 85 of the trade unions of the city and vicinity, have taken strong ground against the policy of expansion now pending before the nation. The Union has forwarded to the Massachusetts Representatives and Senators in Washington a letter asking their consideration of the following resolutions:

"Resolved, that we, the members of the Boston Central Labor Union, on behalf of the organized workers of Massachusetts, enter emphatic protest against the policy of imperialism, now being shaped as the result of a war undertaken in the alleged name of humanity.

Resolved, that while we ardently sympathize with the oppressed of all lands in their efforts towards freedom, we deem the best course for our government to pursue is to direct its earnest thought in modifying or ameliorating social and industrial conditions among ourselves rather than undertake the solution of still more complex problems.

Resolved, that knowing the tenor and impulse of the organized workers of our country, long the slaves of a vicious, pauperizing system of capitalism in an alleged free land, and victims of hireling bullet and judicial prejudice, we advisedly warn the national government against an aggravation of industrial discontent that cannot be avoided under the proposed imperialistic régime."

Christian Endeavor and Peace. Mr. William T. Stead, who is doing such splendid work to make the Czar's conference a success, has sent the following message to the United Society of Christian Endeavor for the Christian Endeavorers of the world:

"The year 1899 brings with it a great opportunity. In the last nine years Christian governments have spent upon armaments for war a sum far exceeding five thousand million dollars. To abate this gigantic waste of the resources of civilization, the Russian Emperor has summoned all governments to a conference. That conference will fail unless vigorously supported by demonstrations of enthusiastic approval all around the world. I appeal to the Christian Endeavorers to do their part in evoking that enthusiasm and in giving it practical shape. Now is the time to act. Let each society be converted into a local peace committee, and undertake the duty of getting up steam for the Peace Conference. Otherwise, the responsibility for the failure of this great opportunity may rest on your heads."

Brevities.

The Bishop of London this year recommended Peace Sunday to his clergy.

. . . The Delagoa Railway Arbitration Court at Berne "is making astonishingly slow progress," says the *Herald of Peace*. But it isn't killing anybody.

. . . France sells England three hundred million dollars worth of goods each year.

. . . The international federation of students, so much talked of, has finally been inaugurated. The first International Congress of Students was recently held at Turin, Italy.

. . . The President of the Argentine Republic, in his reply to the telegram and letter sent to him by the recent Turin Peace Conference says: "The peaceful disposition of my country ought to be known to all the world. The treaty recently made with Italy is the most eloquent proof of it. Arbitration is considered in the Argentine Republic as the most equitable and practical solution of all international differences."

. . . The American Bible Society distributes a million and a half copies of the Scriptures each year. In the eighty-two years of its history it has distributed sixty-four million copies, in one hundred languages. It maintains four hundred colporteurs in foreign lands. That is a work of brotherhood and peace of the noblest order.

. . . Dr. C. A. Bickford, editor of the *Morning Star*, has published, by request, in pamphlet form, under the title of "Christianity and War", an address delivered by him last summer at the convention at Ocean Park, Me. The address is annotated, and is a strong and valuable addition to the literature of peace.

. . . The German army is to be gradually increased by 40,000 men, the increase to be completed by 1903. This will require a yearly addition to the estimates of 8,000,000 marks.

. . . Ten thousand casks of strong drink sent to Manila were our first invoice to "our new possessions." They did not wait for the missionaries. They wanted to begin the work of "civilization" at once.

. . . Gen. Calixto Garcia, one of the most distinguished of the Cuban leaders, and the head of the Commission chosen by the Cuban Assembly to visit this country for consultation as to the future interests of the island, died suddenly at Washington on the 11th of December, from the effects of the sudden change of climate. Gen. Garcia was an unwavering advocate of Cuban independence.

. . . Mr. Oscar Straus, new United States Minister to Turkey, has been given assurances by the Sultan that a satisfactory settlement of all pending questions between the United States and Turkey, including the payment of an indemnity for American losses in Armenia, will be made.

. . . Claims to the amount of more than twenty million dollars have already been filed at the State Department

by American citizens for damages sustained in Cuba, Porto Rico and other Spanish possessions during the war. War runs everything into millions.

. . . At the thirty-second annual meeting of the Cobden Club on the twenty-fourth of November Sir Wilfrid Lawson quoted Mr. Gladstone as saying shortly before his death that in his opinion the two greatest curses of humanity are protection and war. Sir Wilfrid considered that a succinct statement of the views of Richard Cobden who had spent his entire life fighting protection and war.

. . . Patriotism has "gone to seed" in Philadelphia. The City Council has voted, 16 to 15, to give a medal to every Philadelphia man who enlisted in the late war with Spain, without regard to rank or service. The bill will be \$15,000. The resolution is said to have been opposed, in spirit at least, by every thinking man in the Council.

. . . The comparative strength of the six largest navies of the world is as follows: Great Britain 1,557,522 tons displacement, France 731,629 tons, Russia 453,899 tons, United States 303,070 tons, Germany, 299,637 tons, Italy 286,175 tons.

. . . The Anglo-American Joint High Commission for adjusting the differences between this country and Canada has not yet been able to get over the tariff difficulties. The Canadians are not willing to give up the 25 per cent preferential in their trade with Great Britain, and our Commissioners are unwilling, in consequence, to lower certain tariff rates. Peace be with them.

Christmas, 1898.

BY SIR LEWIS MORRIS.

Another Century dies,
In war and blood and pain.
Our longing, straining eyes
Look forth for Peace in vain.
For Christ the myriads fall
Butchered by Turk or Kurd.
Comes there no end? Is all
The hope of men in vain?
Comes not the Lord again
O'er all the earth to reign,
As spake the word?

Slow are God's judgments, slow
To man's impatient thought;
Slow-paced the Ages grow,
In vain the goal is sought.
Armed to the teeth to-day
The jealous peoples stand.
Worse blight than of decay,
Worse burden than of war,
The enormous fleets and legions are;
Dumb Terror speeding, fast and far
O'er sea and land!

'Tis nigh two thousand years
Since came the Prince of Peace.
Return Thou, calm our fears,
Make strife and war to cease.
Thick clouds to-day of doubt
Obscure our faithful sight.
Shine, Blessed Sun, shine out,
The storms of passion still.
Again, O hidden Well,
The wintry earth fulfil
With Peace and Light.—*The Independent.*

God Give Us Men.

"God give us men! a time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith, and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of lucre does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagog,
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog
In public duty and in private thinking;
For while the rabble with their thumb-worn creeds,
Their large profession and their little deeds,
Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land, and waiting Justice sleeps."

The Old Diplomacy, Arbitration and the Permanent Tribunal.

BY EDWARD E. HALE, D.D.

Let us remember, as a foundation in all these discussions, that what is called diplomacy is really as much out of date as is plate-armor or a mail shirt or archery or hunting with falcons. For a person who has eight days in the week nothing could be more entertaining than to study the origin of modern diplomacy, its development, and its preservation, now among the other etiquettes of the past. It has done a certain duty in the past, as plate-armor did, and as falcons did. But now what is done is done outside of its forms and its etiquettes, and these forms and etiquettes are preserved simply for record, or, if you please, to place the final seal on transactions which are wrought out elsewhere.

We still have ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary and chancelleries and attachés. And so we still have plate-armor: there are two large factories in Europe which are devoted to the making of plate-armor which is very good plate-armor. The demand for it in the opera-houses is sufficient to maintain these institutions. And so we still have at the great cities ambassadors, who are very good fellows and do very good work. They prepare the way, in a fashion, and they keep excellent record of what is going on; but the business of the world is not transacted by them.

The world indeed, since this century began, has been looking round, more or less uneasily, for better methods of achieving its purposes than the methods employed, say by Philip II, Henry IV and Queen Elizabeth. The gentleman or lady who is studying the history of diplomacy may connect with this study the progress which has been made in new devices.

Of these devices the methods of what we call Arbitration are by far the most striking. They are so successful that we cannot but congratulate ourselves on their achievements. What is called Arbitration amounts to this: two nations have come to issue on some point which concerns them both;—a good instance is the arbitration of the northeast boundary question, between Maine on the one hand and New Brunswick and Canada on the